WENDELL POST

Vol. VII No. 6 February - March '85 25¢

Sale of Land, Buildings Means Growth for Maple Valley School

The sale of the land and buildings of Maple Valley School to a Stockbridge real estate partnership in early January foreshadows a doubling of the size of the 11½ year old school. From a present $1 million budget and an enrollment of 30, the school--still a separate, non-profit corporation headed by Mitchell Kosh, of Amherst--plans to expand to 60, with a corresponding increase in staff, budget and facilities. Some of the changes are already under way.

The school leases its facilities from the new owner, LaMancha Company, much as it has from former owners since its inception in 1973. A major difference is that LaMancha can reportedly afford much more capital for the growth Kosh envisions for the school Another is that chief partner, Michael DeSisto, executive director of a private school in Stockbridge and another near Orland, Fla. is an educator whom Kosh calls "a like-minded artist." Kosh said he expects the affiliation to produce a "cross-fertilization " between the two schools that will benefit both. DeSisto's precise role in the Maple Valley organization hasn't been settled as the school reconstitutes, organizationally, but Kosh describes the Stockbridge man's role informally as that of "grandfather figure" with advisory standing only.

DeSisto is a young grandfather - age 45 - but he is known in Massachusetts education circles as the school administratior who filed suit against the state Education Department challenging regulations that prohibit the same private school from accepting both state funded and privately funded students. The suit lost the first round and is now under appeal.

Kosh, for his part, has joined DeSisto Schools as executive administrator, but will continue to focus his main attentions on Maple Valley School and retains the title of Executive Director. He has held this position since the school's founding. Much of the time he shared it with Mark Rosen, also of Amherst. Rosen has announced he will leave at the end of this school year to take a position involving American-Israeli affairs in Wahington, D.C.

The main campus of Maple Valley was sold by a partnership of five- Kosh, Rosen, Charles Saunders of Greenfield, Fred Grinnel of Northampton and Saul Gliserman of Northampton. The "White House", located on the east side of Depot Road a few hundred yards south of the main campus, was sold by Rosen, Kosh and Grinnell. This location until recently was the headquarters of an adjunct known as the Center for Child and Family Resources - CCFR -, a separate facility which housed teenagers in state custody until they were assigned to a program. The house will be re-integrated into the main campus.

Kosh said Maple Valley will continue to function as a state-approved school for young people under Chapter 766, a statute that provides educational and related services for disenfranchised minors and minors with special needs. From this position, he said the school will "work from within" to try to change the law that DeSisto is challenging "from without" from the position of his Stockbridge school. This school is presently disqualified under the all-or-nothing regulations from accepting state-funded students. Both educators feel both categories of students would do better in a mixture of private and state aided students.

What will be the effects of Maple Valley's growth and other changes on the town?

At the present, Maple Valley is the town's largest employer. It is also one the biggest taxpayers, with an annual payment to the town of about $3200. With the anticipated growth, its assessment is expected to rise, but not dramatically.

cont' page 4

Conte Staff Due Here

Members of Congressman Silvio Conte's staff will be in Wendell at the Fire Station on February 7th at 1 p.m. Residents are encouraged to stop by and talk with them about any problems or issues of a federal nature.

Inside

Dump News	p. 3
G.O.A.L.S. meetings resume	p. 5
Pairing Project	p. 6
Coffee House opening	p. 7

State Supreme Court Prepares Ruling on Pesticide Case

There was a certain curious analogy between Wendell's hearing before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court January 10 and the line-up of the Soviet Politboro atop Lenin's Tomb in observance of the October Revolution. Over a brunch of coffee and Austrian croissants at the venerable Cafe Tremont, Judith Pickett (Special Town Counsel for Wendell), Douglas Foy (Executive Director, CLF) Peter Shelly (Lawyer for the Conservation Law Foundation), and various interested supporters went over the thirty-minute court appearance with a fine-toothed comb. With an expertise worthy of the best Kremlinologists, we discussed which five of the seven Justices were present, who was taking notes (generally the Justice taking notes will write the opinion), why so few substantive questions were asked, and whether the Justices had read the 370 odd pages of briefs submitted (a possibly good sign).

The Court did not dispense with the presentation of the facts of the case - at

cont' p. 4

$150,000 State Grant For Montague Road

Commissioner Robert T. Tierney of the Mass. Department of Public Works (DPW) has informed the Wendell Selectboard that Wendell will receive a $150,000 grant to complete the reconstruction of Montague Road. This grant was awarded under a Small Town Road Assistance Program (S.T.R.A.P.), sponsored by the Massachusetts DPW.

Wendell was one of 21 towns to receive this grant of 53 Massachusetts towns that applied. The commissioner's January 7th letter said in part, "While reviewing each town's application, the Department had to consider the proposed project's importance to the town's economic and public safety efforts."

The grant requires that the town will have to repay 30% ($45,000) of the grant at the end of 10 years from receipt of the award. Current selectboard plans are to save the amount yearly in a savings account and pay off the $45,000 at the end of the 10 years.

The Montague Road project will involve reconstructing about 1½ miles of roadway. Questions and concerns should be directed to the Wendell Selectboard.

Michael Idoine

WENDELL POST

Vol. VII No. 6

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Post Deadline Info

POST APRIL/MAY ISSUE

Meeting -- March 11, 7:30 p.m. at Gina Caputo's.
Deadline for articles -- April 8, 5 p.m. at Wendell Country Store.
(Articles, photos, and drawings may be submitted; in fact they are invited.)

Deaths

Joyce Carol Fleming of 172 Chase Street, Orange, died in Wendell Depot on October 9, 1984, at the age of 56.

Land Transfers

11/1 Walter Jones to Harry Wadleigh, 3.8 acres on Montague Road.
11/13 Marron Dubois and Jacqueline Gentl to Edward and Candace Hebert, .25 acre on Locks Village Road.
11/15 Paul Liistro to Priscilla Liistro, 20.8 acres on west side of Millers River.
11/16 Fred Heyes to Sally Howe, 38 acres in southern part of Wendell.
11/30 Sally Howe to Robert and Rosalie Rosser, 6.6 acres on Old Lock Hill Road.
12/17 Ralph and Dolores Branyen to Mark Branyen, 9.9 acres on Farley Road.
12/28 Janet Wiseman to Charels Bowes and Gail Bourbeau, 7.5 acres on New Salem Road.

Fire Log

1-15 Car fire on Farley Rd.

Police Log

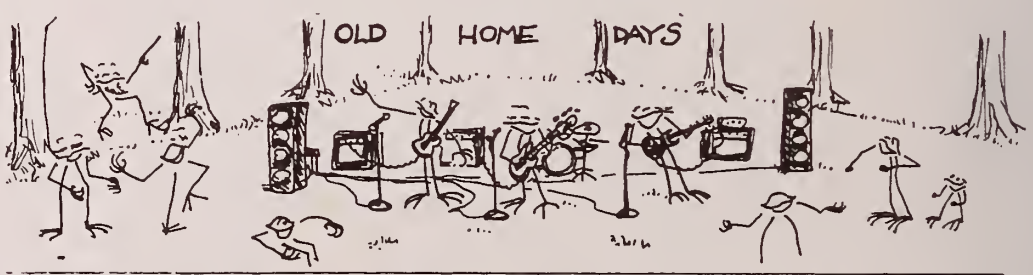
11-27 Jennison Rd. resident reported gun shots fired by hunters too close to house.
11-27 One car accident at Wendell Depot. No injuries.
12-11 Break-in at David Bardsley's residence.
12-15 One car accident on Mormon Hollow Rd. No personal injuries.
1-1 One car accident on Locks Village Rd. Minor injury to two young men.
1-14 Wood stove reported stolen from Gate Lane. (later recovered)
1-16 Two car accident near Swift River School. No personal injury.
1-17 One car accident on Locks Village Rd. No injury.
1-18 Arrested former resident Charles Thompson on warrant for passing bad checks.
1-19 One car accident on Depot Hill. No personal injury.
1-19 One car accident on Bullard Pasture Rd.
1-20 Family dispute on Locks Village Rd. Matter resolved.

Wendell Free Library

NEW HOURS

Wednesday, 12 - 4
6 - 8

Saturday, 10 - 2



The Wendell Old Home Day Committee has finally finished with the electricity on the town common. In early January, a young Wendell resident who wishes to remain anonymous helped us put up the wooden box around the electric service. Many thanks to him for his skill and service. Also we would like to thank the many people in town who helped us get the pole and electricity up there. It sure did make last Old Home Day morning go smoother.

We have set this year's date which is Saturday, August 10th. Be sure to mark it on your calendar now so you won't have any conflicting commitments.

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Parker Cleveland on the job M. V. Photo

New Custodian to Encourage Between-Neighbor Recycling

Wendell town dump attendant, Parker Cleveland, is gearing his job towards being a go-between in a "between neighbors" recycling program.

It has been the policy of the town that the dump contents "belong to" the attendant. But Cleveland would like to see this changed for the good of the town and its occupants. "The best recycling is from one neighbor to another," Cleveland said. "The dump can be a stop in that path." Cleveland wants the dump users to take from the dump anything they can use. He even envisions a "wish list" on which a person could list items he or she is looking for. "I'd like them to ask for something they see. I might be holding it for someone else, but if not, it's theirs."

Cleveland is also negotiating with Joe Diemand about the possibility of direct dumps of large appliances at the Mormon Hollow site.

Beginning in December, 1984, Wendell resident Parker Cleveland took over duties as attendant at the Town Dump on New Salem Rd. The former attendant for many years, Kenneth Wing, had vacated the position in September. Low pay and decreasing opportunity for remuneration from recycling persuaded him to leave. "I'm out of it now," Wing said, "and it will stay that way."

Board of Health spokesperson David Walsh said that Bob and Rosalie Rosser of Wendell had filled in during the interim as attendants while applicants were being interviewed. There were four candidates who answered ads in the Athol and Greenfield papers. (Three were from Wendell and one from Athol.)

New attendant Cleveland says things are changing at the dump due to the difficulty of recycling materials. The Bottle Bill affected the amounts of brown and green glass coming in and it is not economically possible to "save them." Actual sale of even clear glass and paper is no longer feasible. However, there is a Greenfield man who will pick these items up if there is enough accumulated to make it worth his while. "For this," Cleveland says,"we need to construct a storage area at the dump." Then at least the town doesn't have to pay for its removal, as it does with the compacted trash.

Carpenters Invited

The Board of Health under the direction of David Walsh is seeking community support in the construction of an 8'x 12' structure for the storage of recyclable clear glass and paper. "I'm going to ask for money at the Town Meeting," Walsh reports, "but I'd rather save the town's money and have material donated." A roof has already been supplied. Walsh is looking for 2x4's, rough lumber or other siding material, and people-power for building it. Please contact David Walsh at 544-7409 or see the dump attendant.

DUMP HOURS

Tuesday	12 - 6
Thursday	12 - 6
Saturday	9 - 5

Susan DunLany

First Aid in Wendell

Coming home on Christmas Eve, Bob Gallagher, a Wendell firefighter who is also an EMT, had an experience he would like to share. Going westbound on the Mass Pike he came upon an accident that had just happened. When he got to the scene, the car had lots of smoke or steam coming from it. He checked inside and saw a man who was unconscious. He did an intial check and decided it was alright to move him. They moved him to a snowbank away from the car (in case it exploded) and covered him with blankets. He was having a hard time breathing so Bob repositioned his head and neck and that helped him to breath easier. The ambulance arrived and took him to the hospital for overnight observation.

The reason Bob wants to share this is because he is a certified CPR instructor and is very interested in teaching a CPR course to first the Wendell Fire and Police Departments and then to have a course for the Wendell townspeople. At present, he is trying to coordinate the use of the Resusa-Annie owned by the Department of Environmental Health and Safety where he works.

Bob is also working towards becoming a certified First Aid Instructor and when he does that he wants to again offer his service to the townspeople. Eventually, he would like to see the establishment of an Emergency Medical System (EMS) composed of a rescue vehicle and qualified townspeople to staff it so they can be called as a first response to medical emergencies.

Anne Diemand

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M. V. Photo
Maple Valley building under reconstruction

Maple Valley cont' from page 1

At a meeting scheduled for Jan. 23 (after the Post's deadline), officials and citizens were expected to ask what any other imapcts would be. "The basic concern people seem to have is whether the town is gong to be overrun," said Planning Board Chairman Tom Weatherby. He said he didn't anticipate a problem. Interviewed before the meeting had been held, Kosh acknowledged that Maple Valley students had been involved in several house breaks in the past, and Maple Valley students were implicated in a fire which destroyed a vacant neighboring cabin about a year ago - "but local town kids have been involved in the same things." The energetic 35 year old educator said, "the fact is, we're not dealing with juvenile delinquents. They may be angry, confused kids when they get here and many of them have had minor brushes with the law. But I was an angry, confused kid, and I had minor brushes with the law. I was not a juvenile delinquent. And I could have used an environment where people were confronting my responsibly and reliably."

Known best as "Mitch", Kosh keeps open lines of communication with citizens and leaders, according to several accounts including that of Tom Weatherby. "Personally", he said, "as long as Mitchell will be there, I've got no problems with it."

Another concern relates to the capacity of the school's septic system, and still another to "control by an outside concern." While Kosh and Rosen were principles in the real estate company as well as the school - the two entities in fact, were not widely distinguished - it was felt there was a greater access to decisions that might affect neighbors and the town.

Kosh is proud of the innovative tradition of Maple Valley, and the fact that "we've pushed the (restrictive regulatory) parameters as far as any institution operating within the public sector." As the School grows quantitatively, and the complexity of the job for Kosh and others increases, Wendell will be in a unique position to see whether it also grows qualitatively for the individual students and the institution's relations with the town.

Jonathan von Ranson

Pesticide Case cont' from page 1

first generally conceded to mean that the briefs hadn't been read in any depth. However, considering the make-up of the Bench and since few questions were asked, we came to decide that not only had the Justices read the briefs but they had already decided the case, and a decision would be forthcoming relatively soon (within three months). Alas, we could get no feeling on whether the ruling goes for or against us. Our unbiased view is, of course, that our case was stronger than that of the defendants (Attorney General, RR Association, Utilities).

The Railroad Association spent the 2½ minutes alotted to them bemoaning the "Balkanization" of pesticide regulation if Wendell's Bylaw is allowed to stand. Ms. Pickett responded that the pesticide labels themselves require this "Balkanization". Since each pesticide has conditions under which it should not be used, a local, site-specific review of any pesticide application is necessary in order to insure that the pesticides are used in accordance to the label restrictions.

Duncan Payne, the lawyer retained by the Utilities, attempted to minimize the applicability of the recent California Supreme Court decision that ruled that pesticide regulations enacted by the County of Mendocino were not preempted by state or federal statutes. Wendell was also taken to task for making the "potential for harm" the sole criterion on which to judge the suitability of a particular pesticide under specific conditions. Mr. Payne argued that since the federal legislation uses a cost/benefit analysis in judging pesticide safety, so too should the States (and, I suppose, their political sub-divisions). There is, however, no language mandating that the States adopt such an approach.

In the words of Peter Shelly, "... Wendell's enactments (are) an elegant way of integrating local health concerns with the federal labeling requirements". The construction of the Bylaw itself (the work primarily of Town Counsel John Gates), received the somewhat backhanded compliment of being"...surprisingly sophisticated, especially considering the size and situation of the Town of Wendell."

In anticipation of the possibility of Wendell's suit being successful, the Utilities have filed a bill in the State Legislature specifically prohibiting Towns from regulating pesticide use. Simultaneously, the Pesticide Board is due to release the Final Environmental Impact Report on Herbicide Use on Utility and Railroad Rights-of Way, along with a series of proposed regulatory /legislative changes. The Massachusetts Audubon Society is also drafting legislation that would allow the Towns to act as agents of the State (a la Conservation Commissions) in enforcing the label requirements for the application of pesticides. This Pesticide Reform Bill also proposes a separate office within the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs to have jurisdiction over pesticide matters on the state level, and contains a two-tier appeals process, again similar to the Wetlands Protection Act.

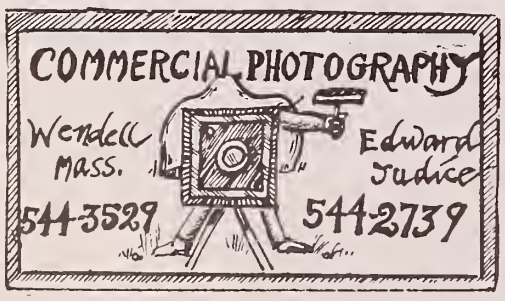
So, typically, even if Wendell wins in Court, we and all Towns in Massachusetts must take steps to actively defend our right to safeguard the purity of our groundwater resources and the health of our citizenry. As the early jockeying for position on the legislative front suggests it is going to be a rather long, complex and involved struggle. I am convinced that Wendell will show the same creativity initiative and resolve in this continuing struggle, as we have thus far. Good luck to us!

Jim Slavas

Wendell Arts Council

The Wendell Arts Council has funded the following projects for this spring, Jan. - June period: $265 - Selectboard Improvement on the Town Hall Stage, $300 - Swift River School for Mohawk Trail Concerts School Music Program, $100 - Claire Green for Storytelling Project on Indian Folk Legend. Look for further notice of these events.

The council will be accepting applications for the second grant of 1985 ($500). The deadline for the applications is April 1, 1985. Please watch for notices in the local newspapers and for posters around town for dates and places of the meetings. For more information or for an application please contact Phylis at 413-367-2175 or Anne at 4-6111.



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Church Hosts Nicaraguan Talk

Pastors Jim Ewen and Diane Dorsey

The U. S. government's presence and involvement in Nicaragua goes back over a century when an American soldier of for tune established a slave trade there, named himself president, and received "instant recognition" from Washington. This is according to Rev. Diane Dorsey, speaker at a program on Central America sponsored by the Wendell Community Church in the Town Hall Jan. 27th. Now, under the Sandanista government, a leadership that is striving for land and social reform, Necaragua struggles for basic necessities against an American-sponsored trade embargo and undeclared war involving both its northern and southern borders and the destruction of its chief harbor. Rev. Dorsey is pastor of the South Deerfield Congregational Church. She visited Honduras and Nicaragua recently with a church organization.

Small Farms Conference

Plans are underway for the 6th Annual Small Farms Conference to be held Saturday, March 30, 1985. Last year's conference held at the Franklin County Technical School in Turners Falls attracted over 350 small scale farmers, home gardeners, and commercial farmers.

The 1985 conference will extend the length of some workshops to one and a half hours instead of only one. There will be over 30 lectures and demonstrations staged by small farmers and other professionals from the community, Extension Service Specialists and University professors.

This very special conference gives small scale farmers and gardeners a chance to meet others with the same interests and to exchange farm related skills and experiences. New topics planned for the 1985 conference will include "Setting Up a Bed and Breakfast," "Decisions in Commercial Herb Production" and "Basic Housing for Livestock" to name a few.

The 6th Annual Franklin County Small Farms Conference is a joint venture between the Franklin County Cooperative Extension Service, Franklin County Agricultural Task Force and Franklin County Technical School.

Maple Squash Pie

1 c. milk
1/3 c. maple syrup
1t. cinnamon
1/8 t. cloves
1/2 t. ginger
3 eggs
1 1/2 c. puréed butternut squash or pumpkin

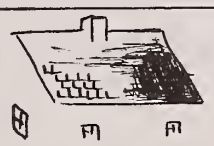
Combine milk (part cream good), syrup, spices. Add beaten eggs and stir in squash. Pour into 9" unbaked pie shell. Bake about 45 min. at 350°. Option: Mix 2/3 c. pecans or walnuts with 1/3 c. soft butter and 2 T. maple syrup. Sprinkle on pie 10 min. before it is done.

Wendell GOALS Meetings Resume

The monthly public meetings for Wendell State Forest GOALS plan (Guidelines for Operations and Land Stewardship) are scheduled to resume on January 31 at 6:30 in the Wendell Town Hall. They will continue to be held at the same time and location on the last Thursday of every month.

The GOALS team has been working on a preliminary land use zoning map which will be presented at the January meeting. Zoning our state lands is the crucial element of every GOALS plan. The Department feels that the best way to guarantee the long term quality and productivity of the land is to institute a land stewardship zoning process upon which to base management decisions. A brief two page description of each zone's purpose will be distributed at this meeting. A copy of the full 30 page zoning document may be obtained by contacting Jennifer Jillson at the following address:

Department of Environmental Management
P.O. Box 484
Amherst, MA 01004 (413) 549-1461



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Robert Streeter

It Always Comes Back To Snow...

Last night I sat reading by the window. The unshaded glow of kerosene threw a dim light to the far corners of the cabin. I only used what little it took to illuminate the pages of my book, the rest just speeding off to some other end. The sun had disappeared behind the hills some time ago, and with the exception of reflected lamp light, darkness was the only view through the window.

As kerosene burned into light and pages turned in my book, a transformation was happening in the woods. It was getting lighter, slowly and gently, until my eyes saw past the reflections and into the woods. The darkness was gone. The first snow of winter was falling.

It fell for less than an hour, amounting to only an inch or two. But it brightened the woods, spirits, and hopes of those of us who love snow. It is what we have wanted since those muggy days of August, since the last mosquito insulted our skin. The autumn colors have come and gone, and we have waited. Last night it came.

I put down my book, blew out the light, and went outside to feel it happen. The flakes were big, floating slowly and silently from sky to earth. They sifted through trees by the millions, embellishing whatever was there to catch them. The stone fences, the hemlock, the white pine, the mountain laurel, were all more beautiful than before, made magic by the snow. The enchanted forest was here and now, it existed on Lock Hill. I caught snowflakes with my tongue. They slid down sweet.

When it ended the clouds moved on. A half-moon was unveiled adding light to the forest. The moonlight painted shadows, black and defined. The snow was glowing a midnight blue. Nothing moved. Mystery blew in with the shadows. Were other beasts enjoying the night?

I thought of the days to come. We will sand the runners of the sleds which hang beneath the porch, and rub on a little wax. The narrow dirt road which leads to the top of Lock Hill is steep and full of curves. When unplowed, it is a ten as sled runs go.

From the top we quickly gain speed and pass the hay field on our right. The woods begin to blur on both sides as snow sprays our faces. We are laughing, screaming, and flying. The first turn banks sharp to the right, we hug it low and feel like Olympic tobogganers. The cabin is passed in an instant, no time to smell the rising smoke. Another turn to the right, a stretch through hemlock country, and a final burst of speed as we bank left down the steepest part of the run. Our bodies vibrate with the contours of snow and ice below us. The road levels off, and our sleds slowly glide to a halt.

It takes about a minute to make the run. At the end we often just roll from the sleds and stare at the sky, adrenalin still pumping from the thrill. I will sled until I die.

The days ahead will also include cross-country skiing. We will ski the trails of summer hikes; the paths are the same, what we see is not, the landscape fresh with a new season's face. Our muscles and bones will move through the woods at a sedentary time of year, fueled by crisp, cold air. Once the ski is over we warm our bodies by the fire, sipping hot apple cider and cinnamon. Skiing through the woods, a warm fire, and hot cider are a panacean combination.

So the first snow has come, and with it the memories of snows past, and the reaffirmation of a love for the cycling of seasons. It always comes back to snow.

-Bob Streeter

Wendell Pairing Project

The people in Wendell involved in the Pairing Project have decided it's time to get serious and send a package off to our sister city in Russia. We would like to send off whatever we can by this spring. Many people have shown an interest in writing a letter, sending a picture, or drawing a picture to have included. If there is anything you would like us to send along or if you would like to be involved in the Pairing Project, please contact Anne at 4-6111 or Sylvia at 4-6146.

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M. V. Photo

Sarah Beth Woodward building "Town of Wendell" -- Preschool project

Swift River Pre-School

The parents of the students of the Swift River Pre-Scjool have had a busy month. We have been busy raising the money we agreed to ($1540). Last time the Wendell Post reported we had raised $980.00. Since then we have raffled off a ceramic village made by Marilou Bartus (one of the pre-schooler's parents) and had a bake sale at the Wendell Christmas Party. From these two fundraisers we have raised $370.00 leaving just $190.00 for us to raise. It's wonderful to be so close to our goal. If you had thought about making a donation, now would be a great time to do so. It would be great the next time I reported for the Wendell Post to be able to say we have done it!

Anne Diemand

Full Moon Coffee House to Feature Taste, Talent

The ever vigilant fundraising committee for the Route 2 fight has turned its eyes to the moon. At intervals through this winter and spring, the Town Hall will be turned into a place to visit with neighbors while relaxing to some of the Valley's best folk and jazz music.

The Full Moon Coffee House, each Saturday closest to the full moon, will bring stars such as Cort Dorsey, Nat Needle, and Debbie Fier. And Dessert-O-Rama! Regular and special varieties of coffees and teas and hot chocolate, and selections of delectable home-created sweets (including whole wheat, honey and maple treats) will be served to guests at small intimate tables.

Opening night, February 2, Debbie Fier will be at the keyboard with her smokin' folk jazz. Formerly a Wendellite, Debbie is now living in Shutesbury, but her heart belongs to Wendell. She is currently on national tour with her music and has released an album, "In Your Hands."

The price of admission will be $2.50. Those who know Amherst and Northampton prices for such entertainment -- to say nothing of the drive -- will appreciate the value.

As an added attraction, in the 60's tradition of coffee houses, there will be an open mike -- opportunity for local music lovers to share their talents with an audience. There will also be special opening acts. The schedule for the evenings will be 8-8:45 opening act; open mike; then 9:30 the main act. The following are dates for the Full Moon Coffee House (watch for posters):

February 2
March 9
April 6
May 4
(June 1)

Next fall, plans for the Full Moon include a gala night: a hayride to a bluegrass jam and contra dance!

The Route 2 Environmental Coalition is very encouraged by the increasing interest and support of state and regional environmental groups. On December 14, the executive board of the state's Division of Fisheries and Wildlife voted unanimously to oppose the rerouting of the highway onto the south bank of the Miller's River. The Division would like to see the present location improved.

- Susan DunLany

Herbal Thoughts Fly Free as a Snowflake

As I wasn't too sure if this issue would appear before or after the holidays, I'm somewhat reluctant to dwell on that aspect of herbs. However, as I was fairly sure that winter was gonna get here regardless, you'll find a few herbal thoughts for the cold-nose-n'-toes months. So I've set aside the wreathmaking, moved the pomanders off the table, pushed the sachets back a foot or so, and gathered an herbal fantasy to spin for you - and, perhaps, capture your interest.

With winter's onset, the hearth again becomes the focal point of family living. Consider herbs for the winter. Briefly, imagine your persnickity kitty curled up by the stove, just purring tranquillity, lying on its own pillow-bed: chamomile and pennyroyal (they'll attract a cat, but not its fleas!). Your faithful trustworthy hound, in from a gallop 'round the "spread", turns three times and settles on his Rue and Cedar filled flea repellent bed-pillow. You sit in your favorite spot by the woodstove, just toasting your edges a bit, inhaling occasional wafts of aromatic steam from the kettle atop it (cloves, cinnamon bark, allspice berries, citrus peels in a cheesecloth pouch). Maybe you sip an herbal tea (soothing mint, relaxing chamomile) - some kind you know's specially good 'cause you grew it yourself).

Ah, the thought wanders into your weary brain: a good tub soak's the order of the day! Before supper, but after a day's coping! An herbal bath is an excellent body tonic. Take handfuls of lavender, mint, comfrey and thyme. An old nylon stocking keeps 'em from floating free. Pour boiling water to cover, steep 10 minutes, and then add to the tub just before adding you. Hop in - relax! (For stiff joints and aching muscles, try a sage-strawberry leaves - chamomile - mugwort combo). After the bath a body powder, perhaps? Try powdered rose petals and lavender blossoms. Or powdered sage and cloves. Mix your choice with cornstarch as a base.

By now, scents from the kitchen, enhanced to mouth-watering by herbal additions, will draw bath-time to a close and you back to the hearth. Perhaps carrots steamed with a pinch of mint? Green beans with summer savory? Parsleyed potatoes? Butternut squash with maple syrup? Lemon and tarragon chicken garnished with chervil from the pot on the windowsill? Salad with chive-flower vinegar? And, of course, dessert: baked cinnamon apples? Cardamom sugar cookies? A light white woodruff-flavored (May) wine?

Winter's to look forward to with herbs. As you put out the lights and climb into bed, rest your head on a spearmint-rose leaf clove pillow! It doesn't have to be big - just tuck it inside your regular one, and it's good for insomnia. And then there are Hops pillows, too... relaxing and definitely soporific.

There's something deeply satisfying about living with herbs, for indeed they're sure to fill at least an evening with their old fashioned virtues and the comforts they impart to both body and soul.

Jacquie Gentl

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Selectmen's Minutes

December 4, 1984

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Chairman Ted Lewis with Slm. Jim Slavas present.

The weekly payroll and bill warrant was approved.

7 pm - Used Trucks Bid Opening.

1977 Ford - Dave Wilder $478.00, Mormon Hollow Auto $1,169.69, Stones Equipment Repair $526.00. Awarded to Mormon Hollow Auto.

1971 International - Dave Wilder $225.00, Mormon Hollow Auto $1.069.69, Stones Equipment Repair 812.00. Awarded to Mormon Hollow Auto.

1951 International - Dave Wilder $200.00, T. Jay Blackbird $335.00, Mormon Hollow Auto $169.69, Stones Equipment Repair $400.00. Awarded to Stones Equipment Repair.

Jimmi Twofeathers was given permission to use the Town Hall on Saturday, December 22, 1984 to hold a dance.

Fire Chief Everett Ricketts was asked if the tanker was running. He replied that it is presently out of service due to electrical problems. It should be back in service in a few days.

Fire Chief Ricketts asked if the Board had any objections to him assigning street numbers to all properties in Town. The Board had no objections and asked to be notified as to when and how this would be done.

Michael Idoine suggested Elizabeth Scully for the Council on Aging to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ken Simos. No action taken.

Discussed dog regulations. Situation: If a violation is sited where the Selectmen are involved and a registered letter is necessary, the Dog Officer shall put the name of the violator and violation in writing to the Selectmen.

The subject of the Fire Dept. Tanker was reintroduced after the Chief had left the meeting. The Board, after a short discussion, decided to ask the Chief for a status report on the tanker every 2 weeks until they are satisfied that it is in good operating condition.

Virginia Schimmel was appointed to the Bd. of Health on Nov. 27.

Emma Cappelluzzo and Claire Stewart asked if the Board had done anything about their request of 8/14/84, to lower the speed limit on West Street.

Selectmen's action 12/4/84:

1. Directed the Clerk to send a letter to the Police Chief requesting more patrols in that area.
2. Directed the Clerk to send a letter to Ms. Cappelluzzo and Ms. Stewart asking them to send a letter to the Police Chief giving times of greatest concern.

Locke Hill #2: Discussed complaints made by Emma Cappelluzzo about conditions near her property. (ditches too deep, culvert blocked, tree roots uncovered) Jim will send Ms. Cappelluzzo a reply.

Jim reported that at the last Steering Committee meeting Adm. Assistant Debra Radway was voted a $1,000.00 raise.

Discussed highway budgets and their uses.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

December 18, 1984

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Slm. Jim Slavas with Slm. Mike Idoine present.

The minutes of the Dec. 4, 1984 meeting were approved. The weekly payroll and bill warrant was approved.

Approved licenses for the calendar year 1985: Package Store - Ann Zak (Wendell Country Store); Store & Lunch Counter - Ann Zak (Wendell Country Store: Anna Hartjens (Wendell Depot Store); To sell Anti-freeze - Ann Zak (Wendell Country Store); Class III M.V. Junk - R.E. Pierce Auto Parts, Joseph A. Diemand and Hilltop Auto Wrecking (Ken Wing).

Jim reported that Deb Radway sent him information on dog fines in Northfield. $10 plus license fee first pick up and $25 everyother.

Discussed Town Garage. Jim reported that he is trying to get skilled people to commit themselves for 4 weekends in a row. Because of new state laws it will be prohibitive for us to hire a contractor to build the whole building for us. Rd. Boss Ronald Grogan was present and was asked to think about needs for the garage (uses, size, spaces, etc.).

Ron mentioned that he keeps getting calls about the lack of street signs in Town.

Received a letter from the state stating that we will be receiving $20,480.00 in Flood Damage Funds.

Discussed the conditions of various bridges in Town.

Decided to meet with the Finance Committee on 1/8/85 at 7 pm.

Meeting adjourned 8:38 pm

January 8, 1985

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Chairman Ted Lewis with the full Board present.

The weekly payroll and bill warrant was approved.

Mike informed the Board that he received a call today from Carmen Buell that we have received a STRAPS Grant for $150,000.

Jimi Twofeathers requested the use of the Town Hall for 1/26/85, 8-11:30 pm to hold a dance. Permission granted.

Signed dog restraining order for 1985. Added fines of $10, $30, $50 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd offenses as voted in September.

Signed a wood cutting agreement for the cemetery lot.

Discussed deed research of the Town Lot on Montague Road. The Board will put an article on the Town Meeting Warrant to have the research done. Request $2000.00.

Discussed insurance coverage for the Town with the Finance Committee.

Worked on budget figures for the Annual Town Meeting.

Nina Keller discussed the Town Hall Well.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Williston, Clerk

PARKING

Section 1. General Prohibitions.
No person shall stand or park and no person shall allow, permit or suffer any vehicle registered in his name to stand or park in any of the following places:
(a) Within an intersection.
(b) Upon any sidewalk.
(c) Upon any crosswalk.
(d) Upon the roadway in a rural or sparsely settled district.
(e) Upon a roadway where parking is permited unless both wheels on the right side of the vehicle are within twelve (12) inches of the curb or edge of the roadway, except those streets which are designated as one-way streets. On such one-way streets vehicles shall be parked in the direction in which said vehicle is moving and with both wheels within twelve (12) inches of the curb.
(f) Upon any roadway where the parking of a vehicle will not leave a clear and unobstructed lane at least ten (10) feet wide for passing traffic.
(g) Upon any street or highway within five (5) feet of a fire hydrant.
(h) In front of any private road or driveway.

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